HAND TOOL SAFETY

Hand tools, while seemingly harmless, can actually be a real danger if not used or maintained properly. Hand tools can cause cut/puncture/scrape injuries, eye injuries and struck-by injuries. Awkward working positions and body postures, static load on arms and upper body muscles, forceful grips, and vibration can also cause repetitive motion and ergonomic injuries while using hand tools.

MAKE SURE YOU PRACTICE THESE TIPS FOR BASIC HAND TOOL SAFETY:

- Regularly inspect tools to make sure they are in good condition - don't use tools that are loose or cracked
- Use tools that are the right size and type for the job
- Wear proper personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves, eye protection, and hard hats as appropriate
- Keep your cutting tools sharp and in good condition
- Don't work with oily or greasy hands
- Handle sharp-edged and pointed tools with care.
- Don't carry tools up a ladder - use a hoist or rope
- Don't throw tools to a fellow worker - hand it to them
- Don't use a file without a handle
- Cut away from your body when you use chisels and other cutting tools
- Use ergonomic tools, if available, for repetitive and forceful movements
- If anything breaks or malfunctions, report it to your supervisor immediately and take it out of service
- After using a tool, clean it and store it properly

I understand the information presented and the importance of using hand tools properly.

COMPANY: _____   **DATE:** _____

EMPLOYEE NAME: **EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE:**

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LEARN MORE WAYS TO KEEP YOUR WORKPLACE SAFE.
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